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100817Z Feb 05

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 ATHENS 000428

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB/TRA AND IO/T  
FAA FOR AIA-100  
ROME FOR FAA JOYNER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/09/2115

TAGS: [FAIR](#) [AORC](#) [ECPS](#) [PTER](#) [GR](#) [AMB](#) [IASA](#)

SUBJECT: MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION ON CIVAIR ISSUES: FAA CATEGORY TWO STATUS AND PRIVATIZATION OF OLYMPIC AIRWAYS

Classified By: Ambassador CP RIES reasons 1.4 (B,D).

SUMMARY

1. (C) Ambassador RIES called on Minister of Transportation and Communication Michalis Liapis on February 7. During the meeting, Liapis told
2. (C) Liapis explained that the timing of an IASA assessment would have some bearing on the success of GoG's impeding privatization of Olympic  
FAA AND FLIGHT SAFETY OVERSIGHT
3. (C) In a February 7 meeting with Ambassador RIES, Minister of Transportation and Communication Michalis Liapis discussed the GoG's efforts
4. (C) The Ambassador stressed the importance of the HCAA fulfilling all ICAO conditions before an IASA inspection takes place. Ambassador's  
PRIVATIZATION OF OLYMPIC AIRWAYS/AIRLINES
5. (C) Liapis explained that the timing of an IASA assessment would have a bearing on the outcome of the privatization of the Olympic Airways/
6. (C) According to Liapis, the government is attempting to sell the new Olympic Airlines by the end of April, with the first non-binding bid  
Comment
7. (C) We understand from our contacts with the U.S. firm "SH and E" (technical consultants to HCAA) and the FAA that Liapis is now prepared  
RIES